BUNDLE UP FOR NEXT WINTER BLAST PG 3



H&M opening at **Dartmouth mall**

CLOTHING You might call it the IKEA of clothing

H&M is opening its first store east of Quebec and it will be in Mic Mac Mall in Dartmouth.

The company describes its clothing as "high fashion at affordable prices."

Their 44th Canadian store will be open in August.

The Swedish-based company has more than 1,600 stores in 33 countries.

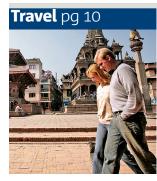
METRO HALIFAX



Every dog has its day on screen

World pg 4

Hillary faces questions on Bill's charity



Nepal: From war zone to tourist spot

Comment pg 6

Making a case for a Senate seat



The Port of Halifax has seen another drop in container traffic in 2008. The prospects for 2009 aren't much brighter.

Port traffic sees significant drop

President says still in good shape

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

The port of Halifax took about a 20 per cent hit in traffic over 2008, and that's likely just the begin-

Port authority executives tried to put a positive spin on the situation at a provincial economic development meeting yesterday. But a few ominous factors threaten to cause major problems for what was called "the lifeblood" of Halifax's economy.

Even before this year, the port only used about one third of its capacity processing about 500,000 containers per year out of



"Our port is very, very solid. We have the ability to reinvest in infrastructure and we've done that — \$55 million over the last five years" Karen Oldfield

a possible 1.4 million. Hali- — \$55 million over the last fax Port Authority presifive years," said Oldfield. dent Karen Oldfield confirmed 2008's numbers are down "in the ballpark" of 20 per cent and 2009 will likely be worse.

Still, Oldfield insisted the port can handle chal-

"Our port is very, very solid. We have the ability to reinvest in infrastructure and we've done that

We have great partnerships and a great business community and together, I think we're going to weather the storm."

Shipping is down globally, but two looming prob-lems threaten Halifax's growth in particular. The first is the dredging of New York Harbour. Currently seven out of eight container ships that come to Halifax are either heading to or from New York.

The shallow and crowded New York Harbour requires many ships to lighten their load at Halifax before they can enter. But once dredging is complete, that won't be as much of a problem and more ships could bypass Halifax.

The second problem is the renovation of the Panama Canal.

The world's largest ships can't fit through it, so they come instead through the Suez Canal and across the Atlantic.

Once the renovations are complete, fewer ships will be travelling in Nova Scotia's neck of the ocean.

Jimmy Melvin free to leave overnight, judge rules

DARTMOUTH Jimmy Melvin, Jr., can leave the province on overnight business trips, Dartmouth provincial court Judge Bill MacDonald agreed yester-

But it's not clear exactly what business he'll be do-

"The Crown is satisfied the release conditions for Mr. Melvin are appropriate, given the charges he's currently facing," Public Prosecution Service spokeswoman Chris Hansen said yester-

Melvin, Jr., is charged

History

convicted

Melvin is a

drug dealer.

Police say his

release from

jail led to a se-

ries of shoot-

ings that be-

gan Nov. 17

and included

fired

the

shots

IWK.

outside

with uttering threats to a police officer and failing to comply with a court order.

Neither Crown attorney Terri Lipton defence lawyer Josh Arnold would say what job

Melvin has taken.

If he goes out of town, he must be in the company of Daniel Craig Pye.

Lipton said Pye doesn't have a criminal history.

Melvin wouldn't make any comments when asked by reporters.

Arnold said he may ask the court to allow Melvin to move out of his parents' Fall River home at some point, but for now he still must live there and abide by a 10 p.m. curfew when he's not travelling on business. Melvin was shot twice in the upper torso outside a Ridgevalley Road apartment building Dec. 4, part of what police believe is a drug war between his family and the Marriotts.

METRO HALIFAX

Share Your Views

halifaxletters@metronews.ca

The province has officially proclaimed HRM By Design, a set of guidelines for downtown Halifax development. It's also given Halifax its own charter, which will allow HRM to chart its own course on some issues rather than asking for provincial approval. METRO HALIFAX

Local



Sydney-oilsands service ends

Alta., to Sydney. Roughly 120 people were taking the flight to work high-paying oilsands jobs, which brought in \$100,000 annually for the Sydney airport authority. There's still a Westjet flight from Halifax, and Air Canada offers connecting flights to Fort Mac.

Soldier challenges court martial

SHOOTING Cpl. Matthew Wilcox, facing a court martial in the death of a fellow soldier, has challenged the impartiality of the military judges trying him.

CBC reported that defence lawyer Maj. Stephen Turner argued Monday that military judges are only appointed for five years at a time, and said they can't be independent if they're afraid they're going to lose their jobs.

Wilcox, of Glace Bay, is charged with manslaughter in Cpl. Kevin Megeney's October 2007 shooting death.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Video Planned Gitmo shutdown raises questions about Omar Khadr's future at metronews.ca/canada

Political Stripes 2008 could end up being the pinnacle of Jack Layton's political career at metronews.ca



JENNIFER TAPLIN jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Bernie Fougere usually has to look far and wide for wood pellets, so he was shocked to see a sign for them on the side of **Herring Cove Road.**

Pellets have been in short supply all winter because a major producer in Quebec suffered a fire, and the demand is higher because more people are switching from oil heat. Suppliers in Nova Scotia have been overwhelmed by customers.

"I go all the way down to the South Shore to get pellets whenever I can," said Fougere, who lives in Hubbards.

Friday, Richard On Wright started selling the pellets from the driveway of his construction business on Herring Cove Road.

"I'm just trying to make a living now because the bottom has fallen out of the construction market, and I'm just trying to feed my family," he said.

The sluggish economy hit his construction business so hard, he was recently look-



Richard Wright loads up a pallet of wood pellets on Herring Cove Road yesterday. Many customers who use pellets to heat their home have found the product in short supply this winter.

ing for an alternative source of income. He read about the wood-pellet shortage, then he found an ad from a Maine company wanting distributors in Halifax.

"Oh my God — the feedback I'm getting on the product is (it's) the best product around," he said. "Unfortunately, it's a shame it comes out of the United States.'

Even though he's only making about 50 cents profit from each bag, Wright said business is brisk.

Fougere said he's just happy to find a supplier. He's used a wood-pellet stove as his main source of heat for 14 years.

'So it's really important I get pellets, and I've been really struggling."

MacDonald signs five-year working deal with Bermuda

JENNIFER TAPLIN jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

TRADE Safe from the latest Nova Scotian snowstorm, Premier Rodney MacDonald wrapped up a business

meeting in Bermuda yesterday.

He signed a five-year "Obviously, many Nomemorandum of un- va Scotians want to derstanding visit Bermuda in the with the Pre-mier of **good weather, but** Bermuda, Ewart to deal off the island." Brown. collaborate

on trade and Rodney Macdonald investment,

many Bermudians

tourism, education and other sectors: "Aspects where there are clear synergies between Nova Scotia and Bermuda," MacDonald said in a phone interview yesterday.

"One example is, we have 400 Bermudians students who go to our universities each year."

A number of financialservice companies from Bermuda have set up shop in Nova Scotia and have created about 1,000 jobs in the last few years.

"And more to come," MacDonald said. "I met with a number of companies (yesterday) who I want to see come to Nova Scotia to either set up

> shop or exshould have more to say in the coming months."

The two regions have want to travel a great been in business for 150 vears, as sharing time zone

and language helps. MacDonald said he also met with the airport authority yesterday because he wants to see more direct flights from Halifax to Bermuda.

"Obviously, many Nova Scotians want to visit Bermuda in the good weather, but many Bermudians want to travel a great deal off the island."

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MP Casey ready to retire

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

POLITICS Somewhere out there, Stephen Harper is heaving a big sigh of relief.

Bill Casey, the onetime Tory MP who went on to become a symbol of party rebellion, announced yesterday he will not run in the next election.

Casey famously refused to support Harper's changes to the Atlantic Accord in 2007, and was booted from the Tory caucus for his defiance. lust three months ago, he ran as an independent in his Cumberland-Colchester-

Musquodoboit Valley riding and received more than twice as many votes as all other candidates combined.

"It's been 20 years, you know. (MLA) Jamie Muir said the other day when he announced he wasn't running that 10 years in this business is enough for anybody," said Casev.

"I agree with him. I'm just



Bill Casey sits in his office waiting to talk to the media yesterday after announcing that he will not run in the next federal election.

a slow learner."

Casey says he wants to continue working for the public, but doesn't know specifically what he'll do next. He said one thing's for sure — he won't be offered a patronage appointment as long as Harper is prime minister.

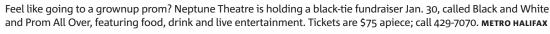
"I don't think they would appoint me as dog catcher," Casey joked.

Casey, 63, and his wife made the decision not to run again over the Christmas break. He said he was announcing it now in case an election is called soon, so potential suitors for the seat know to prepare.

"Politics gets a bad rap, I think. But for me, it's been a great experience. It's made me a better person and I hope I've made a contribution," said Casey.

"I hope that good people will consider offering. It's well worth it, that's all I can say."

The Conservative riding association also defied the party and backed Casey in the last election. Association president Scott Armstrong said the group would support whatever future Tory candidate is nominated in the riding.





A pedestrian crosses a downtown street during a winter storm last month. Metro was hit with another storm overnight and more winter weather is on the way.

Chill after storm

JENNIFER TAPLIN jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Get ready for another round of winter.

Another snow storm hit the city overnight and it's about to get very cold with windchills of -27 C toward the end of the week.

RCMP warned motorists to take it easy on the drive this morning as roads are expected to be snow-covered and icy.

Guy Roussel, a meteorologist with Environment Canada, said yesterday the snow was expected to hit Halifax around 11 p.m. last night and switch to rain early in the morning.

"The rain will taper off or mix with snow around 9 a.m. (this) morning," he

Environment Canada issued a winter storm watch yesterday for snowfall

Mr. Landry, I know that as

my landlord you don't owe me

any favours, but I beg you to hear

amounts between 10 to 15 centimetres inland and over high terrain.

Roussel predicted Halifax would get up to 10 centimetres.

"It's going to be very cold on Thursday, with temperatures in the minus low-tomid teens," Roussel said.

It will hit -20 C before the end of the week, and that's without the wind chill.

Bundle up.

Rock 'n' Roll All Night in Halifax?

JENNIFER TAPLIN jennifer.taplin@metronews.ca

Rumours of glam rockers Kiss coming to Halifax are solidifying.

An ad running this week in Metro says "Get ready" with a picture of the iconic Kiss makeup on a mask.

A new website, Halifax Rocks, promises an official announcement "very, very soon."

Reports of a Kiss concert first came from the lips of bassist Gene Simmons last fall. He told Sun Media they're planning to do about 10 stops in the summer of '09 with some Canadian shows.

"I know Halifax is one, but before you get out

Kiss in 1977

• Kiss last played Halifax in 1977. They were supposed to return for their 1989-90 tour, but the stop was cancelled.

there and start the baseball season, they hold exhibition games, that's what we're doing. 'Cause once we go out, it's going to be for a year-and-a-half," Simmons said.

Power Promotional Concepts of Dartmouth are putting on the show. A spokesman for the show didn't return a phone message yesterday.

Heather Churchill, über-Kiss fan and organizer of the Halifax Kiss Expo, said she hasn't heard anything

concrete, but is very excited at the indications so far.

"I'm very excited, but I'm just going to wait until things are officially announced. It seems like they just started the promotion for this, so we'll wait and

There's no doubt in Churchill's mind a Kiss show would be bigger the Rolling Stones outdoor concert in 2006.

"It's just that these guys are so huge. They're just as big, I think," she said.

Halifax isn't the only city expecting a big rock show this summer. A Moncton newspaper said there are rumours that either U2 or AC/DC could perform on Magnetic

Ex-cop loses police union suit

LEGAL A former police officer's legal crusade ended up biting him for \$1,000 yesterday. James Symington was suspended by the Halifax Regional Police when he went to help with 9-11 rescues while supposedly on sick leave. He'd sued the police officers union for not properly representing him, but the union said his allegations were too vague. Yesterday a judge agreed, charging Symington \$1,000 in court fees.

Do it daily.

We Play Anything

96.5 FM

News in brief

DOG The Nova Scotia SPCA says it thinks a judge, not just city staff, should be allowed to order a dog be put down when it's declared dangerous. The SP-CA is currently holding Brindi, a dog that the city's animal control officers ordered euthanized because she was aggressive to another dog last summer. Brindi's owner, Francesca Rogier, argues Brindi is a sweet dog who just needs more training, and she took the city to court earlier this month.

ROBBERY Halifax Regional Police are looking for a man armed with a handgun who robbed the PCPC store on Coburg Road just after noon yesterday. He got away with an unknown amount of money and computer equipment. No one was hurt. The suspect was a six-foot white man wearing a brown hoodie, a bandanna over his face and black sunglasses.

CRIME A teen armed with a knife stole money and an MP3 player from a passenger on a Metro Transit bus last night as it drove along Joseph Howe Drive. No one was hurt.

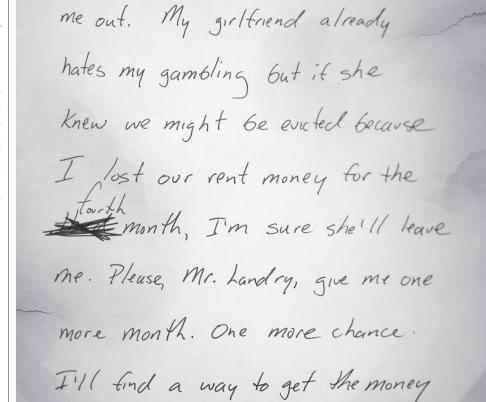


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vour choice for this month's category:

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Crib company announces major recall The Canadian company that makes the Stork Craft line of baby cribs is voluntarily recalling more than a million of them in Canada and the United States because of a potential suffocation hazard, authorities said yesterday. REUTERS

Canada/World

Police identify 'persons of interest' in B.C. pipeline bombings

ENERGY One of the province's largest oil and gas companies yesterday promised up to \$500,000 for information leading to an arrest and prosecution in the bombings of its natural gas facilities near Dawson Creek, B.C. Police have identified what they describe as "persons of interest" who have not been co-operative with investigators, but still have no suspects. METRO CANADA

News in brief

AID A humanitarian worker from Kamloops, B.C., is in a coma after he was beaten and robbed in Cambodia. According to the International Humanitarian Hope Society, Jiri Zvini, is in critical condition in REUTERS



Megan Blake and Laura Buck, both 22, sample an ObamaTail on the Rideau Canal Skateway yesterday. The BeaverTails creation will be served at a U.S. inauguration party.

Ottawa Obama Tails on the canal CAW furious with gov't over U.S. truck contract

The Canadian Auto Workers is criticizing the federal government for awarding a \$254-million contract to a U.S. company to build trucks for the Canadian Forces at its plant in Texas while it's laying off workers in Chatham, Ont.

"Somebody has to explain to us why Canadian workers can't build military trucks for the Canadian military," said senior CAW executive Ken Chernecki, referring to a defence department contract to Illinois-based Navistar International Corp. to build 1,300 medium-duty trucks for the Canadian Forces.

Navistar sent out 500 layoff notices to its Chatham workforce last week, with "At the plant this morning, our guys were just dumbfounded; they're mad as hell."

Ken Chernecki, CAW

another 200 expected in the spring. Chernecki said only 200 workers are left and the plant's survival is at stake.

"At the plant this morning, our guys were just dumbfounded; they're mad as hell," he said. "In the face of (layoffs) over the next few months, there is no legitimate credible reason" for Ottawa's decision.

"Doesn't the government know there's a manufacturing crisis in Cana-

CAW officials plan to ask Navistar executives — already slated to meet with them today over heavy layoffs at their truck plant in Chatham — to switch the order from Garland, Texas, to their Canadian opera-

Asked yesterday why the contract couldn't have stipulated the trucks be built in Canada, a spokesperson for Defence Minister Peter MacKay referred the Toronto Star to the Public Works Department.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Clinton faces questions over husband's charity

Former president Bill Clinton's charity should stop taking foreign donations to avoid any conflict of interest with his wife Hillary Clinton's work as secretary of state, a top Republican said yesterday.

Clinton was expected to be confirmed easily as the top U.S. diplomat, but Republican and Democratic lawmakers raised the issue of her husband's charitable fundraising as she testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, the panel's top Republican and a centrist voice on U.S. foreign policy, said a disclosure agreement between presidentelect Barack Obama's team and the William J. Clinton Foundation did not go far enough to prevent potential conflicts of interest.

'The core of the problem is that foreign governments and entities may



Hillary Clinton, right, smiles with her daughter Chelsea during her confirmation hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in Washington to become the next secretary of state.

perceive the Clinton Foundation as a means to gain favour with the secretary of state," Lugar said.

"The only certain way to eliminate this risk going forward is for the Clinton Foundation to forswear new foreign contributions when Senator Clinton becomes secretary of state," Lugar added.

Clinton, who was accompanied by her daughter Chelsea but not her husband, listened to Lugar but did not address the matter during her confirmation

REUTERS

News in brief

MIDDLE EAST Israel's top general said there was still "work ahead" in the 18-day offensive against Hamas in the Gaza Strip yesterday, and Israeli tanks and troops edged closer to the heart of the city of Gaza.

NAFTA Mexican President Felipe Calderon left the door open yesterday to discussion of possible changes in the North American Free Trade Agreement a day after talks with Barack Obama.

DISEASE U.S. syphilis rates rose for a seventh year in 2007. while chlamydia reached record numbers and gonorrhea remained at alarming levels, health officials said yesterday.

5

S&P says risk rising for U.S. ratings

Standard & Poor's yesterday affirmed its AAA rating for 12 nations, including Canada and the U.S., but said risks to the United States' top sovereign grade have increased. REUTERS

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Toyota defies gloom

Dealers sell more vehicles than ever before

Toyota dealers across the country are smiling despite the turmoil in the auto industry.

While dealers for some manufacturers are struggling because of a big sales slump and too many stores, Toyota retailers sold more autos than ever last year.

Toyota's 239 dealers across the country sold an average of 875 cars and trucks in 2008, far more

"The success of their product was a key part of reaching this level."

Dennis DesRosiers

than any other company, statistics from DesRosiers Automotive Consultants showed yesterday.

It represented an 11 per cent increase for Toyota dealers from 2007 and a 68 per cent jump in average annual sales since 2000. The increase also marks the first time that an automaker has sold more than 800 vehicles per store in Canadian history.

"The success of their product was a key part of reaching this level," said DesRosiers president Dennis DesRosiers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The **DAILY**BUSINESS BUZZ

Paper line shutting down for a week:

The glossy paper line at the NewPage Corp's. mill in Point Tupper will shut down for a week from Saturday to scale back production by about 150,000 tons across North America in the first quarter. The supercalendered paper line, PM2, produces paper for the magazine and catalogue market.

CFIB pans Canada Post for 'unfair' postage hike:

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business has blasted Canada Post for its postal increases that CFIB executive vice-president Garth Whyte says "are unnecessary, unfair and come at a terrible time, when the economy is weakening and so many small businesses are struggling to stay alive."

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DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ
nsbj.ca

Nortel shares dive ahead of key date

INTEREST Shares of Nortel Networks fell more than 20 per cent yesterday, two days before it is due to make an interest payment of about \$107 million US.

Nortel, North America's biggest maker of telephone gear, had about \$2.3 billion at end of September, suggesting it would have no difficulty in making the debt payment.

Alitalia **Back in the air**

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A passenger checks in at an Alitalia desk at Fiumicino airport near Rome yesterday. Alitalia took to the skies as a revamped, privately owned carrier after nearly being grounded for good last year. Italian investors bought its best parts, leaving the rest to the Italian state.

Non-bank lenders get voice at talks

TEAM Finance Minister Jim Flaherty is expanding his working group on credit to include other stakeholders, a move that gave non-bank lenders their first voice at the table.

An industry source said executives from banks, along with the Canadian Bankers Association, met with their counterparts from Desjardins and Credit Union Central of Canada. It was unclear if the financial co-operatives would take up permanent seats or function as observers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Trade surplus hits 11-year low on oil

ECONOMY Canada's monthly trade surplus shrank to its lowest level in 11 years in November as oil prices plummeted and demand for Canadian commodities declined along with the U.S. economy.

The trade surplus fell to \$1.28 billion, the smallest since October 1997, Statistics Canada said, signaling the economy may have contracted far more than expected in the fourth quarter. The trade news sent the Canadian dollar skidding to its weakest level this month.

Business in brief

AIG SALE Bank of Montreal will buy the Canadian life insurance business of American International Group Inc. for about \$375 million, the companies said yesterday, the latest in a series of asset sales at distressed prices.

AUTO U.S. auto sales in 2009 should fall about 13 per cent

and reach their lowest level in 27 years, pushing some automakers closer to the verge of collapse, industry analysts said.

MEAT Canada said it will shelve for now its World Trade Organization complaint about U.S. rules that require a country-oforigin label on meat sold in U.S. stores.



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Comment & Views

Comment

Paul's Senate resumé

Columnist believes he was overlooked by PM Harper



Dear Mr. Prime Minister.

I see you have started appointing journalists to the Senate, and I think it's about time you put away those fussy old Reform party ideas about a so-called "Triple E" Senate and take to padding it with the same cynical relish as your Tory predecessor Brian Mulroney, who, in 1990, appointed eight senators in a single day in order to get the GST rammed through.

I'm just sending this note to let you know that I'm making myself available. I know you've got another round of appointments scheduled in March and I don't want to miss out.

Obviously, you didn't know I was available when you made your most recent picks. If Mike Duffy gets to climb into a nice cosy Upper Chamber seat and doze off, why shouldn't I be next in



Columnist Paul Sullivan is lobbying Prime Minister Stephen Harper for a seat in the Senate.

line? I mean, my qualifications are a match for his. And unlike Mike, I wouldn't need the extra chair.

Look, I'm at least as old as he is. Some would say washed up, but that's cruel and unkind. I prefer to think that I'm seasoned and experienced, like Mike.

Like Mike, I have the ability to form instant opinions out of thin air and communicate them wisely and gravely. I can even do that little head move he has that simulates thoughtfulness. That's ideal in a senator, who can say or think whatever he or she likes knowing it will be ignored because no one ever listens to a senator.

Like Mike, I have absolutely no actual experience in government or governing, so I have no idea how hard it is for MPs who actually have to get elected by the popula-

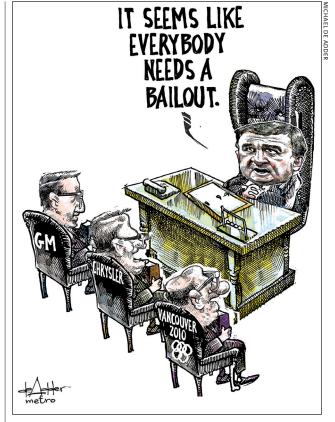
tion at large rather than get appointed by a grateful prime minister. I also have no intention of finding out.

I also understand the Senate meets for 90 days a year and senators can miss 21 of those days before any penalties apply, which means I only have to turn up once every five days or so and still get the \$130,000 per annum cash and perks. So I won't be hanging around getting in the way.

You can rest assured that I have never said or reported anything of any consequence that might embarrass you, so I am eminently qualified to cash in and I am more than willing to serve until 75, which, sadly, is only 17 years away. Time is of the essence! Don't worry about the collapse of the economy or the fact that your minority government is hanging by a frayed thread of national sufferance — the time is always right to hand out the pork to your real friends.

Yours in journalistic and parliamentary integrity,

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist



Letters

'Simple' solution to end problems in the Mideast

It is simple how the current problems in Gaza can be solved. Hamas can stop its deliberate targeting of Israeli civilians, which number more than 10,000 missiles in the past eight years and more than 500 in the so-called recent truce.

Israel will not have to finally respond and will stop

targeting the Hamas terrorists who hide amongst the Arab civilians of Gaza. The UN can assist by not employing Hamas members on its staff and allowing use of UN resources. After that, having seized control of Gaza by violent means, Hamas should concentrate on creating the theocratic state that it claims it yearns for.

MICHAEL BAIGEL, TORONTO

Word on the street: Do you think polygamy should be illegal?

Julia Chisholm

age 28, Halifax

A: Maybe polygamy is a choice thing, but if you're under 18, you don't know the ramifications of what you're choosing - or what your tamily is choosing for you.

Andrew Hamm

age 24, Halifax

think polygamy itself shouldn't be illegal, but there should be restrictions on age. It's a religious belief, and making it illegal infringes on that belief.

Emily Forrest

age 35, Halifax

A: Perhaps it should be illegal because women suffer. If somebody's getting hurt, that's where I stand.

John Baillie age 72, Toronto

A: Yes, it should

be illegal. It's against society and everything. It's disgusting.



Odiana

Kniaht

age 62, Toronto

A: I would say

no. People are

practising it any-

why divorce rates

are sky high. It

— that's

Carlo **D'amico**

age 37, Montreal

A: Yes, it should be illegal. I was raised in having just one partner in my life and I don't see how I'd be able to devote myself to multi-

Tram Danh age 19,

Vancouver

A: I think should be illegal. Why should men have more than one wife? It's unfair and a double standard.

A: In our society, in Canada, I think it's not possible. I'm Muslim, I could have four wives, but I'm not going to be-

Souliman

age 21, Ottawa

cause I'm westernized.



Matt **Carruthers** age 19, Ottawa

A: I think should be legal, but it all comes down to the individual. If you want to have one husband and he has many wives, that's up to her. It all has to be consensual,

course

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.



Sports



"I feel like crap ... I have a tough time dealing with it year after year."

Former big league pitcher Bert Blyleven, left, to ESPN Radio yesterday on being passed over for the Baseball Hall of Fame for the 12 straight year. Blyleven compiled a 287-250 record ith a 3.31 ERA and 3,701 strikeouts in a 22-year career, mostly with the Twins.

No drama, Levingston says

MATTHEW WUEST matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

As far as owner Andre Levingston is concerned, a storm brewing within the Halifax Rainmen has

blown over. Levingston is downplaying a public squabble between star Eric Crookshank and head coach Rick Lewis. Lewis benched Crookshank, the most recognizable Rainman, in Sunday's 105-103 loss to the Montreal Sasquatch.

Crookshank questioned the decision in media interviews afterward, but Levingston said Lewis was simply doing his job and that Crookshank's reaction was only natural.

"I'm not concerned about it," said Levingston. "The coach is the coach. He makes the decisions that he feels are giving the organization the best opportunity to win.

Crookshank don't like it, Crookshank don't like it. At the end of the day, it was the coach's

Levingston called Crookshank a "competitive person" and said it's been business as usual at practice this week.

He added that Crookshank's complaint about playing time is an isolated case. The Rainmen are sharing minutes fairly evenly among 10 players. No one is averaging more than 40 minutes, and only two players are averaging more than 35.

"Rob Sanders, who can start anywhere in this league, comes off our bench, and we've not had one complaint," Levingston said.

"These guys have an opportunity to fight for a championship, so it's not an issue at all. It's been

• The Rainmen are hitting the road for a couple of key weekend games without one of their best players.

Brian Silverhorn, second in team scoring and a deadly three-point threat, will stay in Halifax with a



Rainmen coach Rick Lewis, centre, benched Eric Crookshank during Sunday's loss to Montreal.

knee injury.

Forward David Bailey, who left Sunday's game with a knee injury, is expected to be ready to play on Friday.

The Rainmen (3-1) leave Thursday morning to face the Vermont Frost Heaves (1-1) on Friday and the Manchester Millrats (1-2) on Sunday. The games could shift the balance of power in the Premier Basketball League's Atlantic Conference.

All three teams played in the American Basketball Association last season. The Rainmen didn't beat either of the other two, going 0-7 against Vermont and 0-5 against Manches-

• Former Rainmen forward Kadiri Richard is up to his old tricks with the Wilmington Sea Dawgs. The defensive specialist is tied for second in the PBL with 10 blocks in three

One man up, one man down for Moose

MATTHEW WUEST

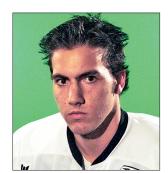


The Halifax Mooseheads have good news and bad news on the injury front heading into the weekend.

Rookie right-winger Jessyko Bernard, who has missed the past two games with a groin injury, is expected to return to the lineup, but top-scoring defenceman Justin Pender will remain on the shelf with a troublesome knee injury.

The Herd is also being cautious with rookie goalie Mathieu Corbeil. Sources say he's been playing with a hand injury since Jan. 4, and while he's healthy enough to be a backup, Mark Yetman will start until he's better.

Recent acquisition Guillaume Pelletier (knee) remains sidelined and won't be back for a few more weeks. The Mooseheads play the Bathurst Titan on Saturday at 7 p.m. and the



Jessyko Bernard returns to the Mooseheads on Saturday.

Moncton Wildcats on Sunday at 4 p.m.

- Former Mooseheads goalie Pier-Olivier Pelletier has found a home in the university ranks. Pelletier, who had a disappointing year with the Mooseheads in 2007-08, was unable to land pro work and has joined the Waterloo Warriors.
- The last-place Val-d'Or Foreurs have claimed Alexi Pianosi off waivers from the Victoriaville Tigres. The defenceman 19-year-old from Halifax has a goal and 10 assists in 43 games.

Decisions coming for NHLPA

he NHL Players Association intends to divulge before month's whether it will:

A) End its collective bargaining agreement with the NHL or extend it another two seasons;

B) Fire former superstar Eric Lindros as its ombudsman or retain him.

Hockey sources predicted in chats with Metro yesterday that the NHLPA will announce during festivities surrounding the allstar game in Montreal on Jan. 25 that its player representatives are choosing to extend the agreement.

The CBA that ended the 2004-05 NHL lockout gave the players the option to either terminate the existing agreement next September or extend it two more seasons.

The sources said players are not interested in a major labour battle during these troubling economic times, have already voted to extend the agreement and intend to enthusiastically announce their decision in Montreal.

At the same time, the



sources said, the union might announce the firing of Lindros.

They said his firing is possible because of a major division in the NHLPA over his contributions. Union executives won't publicly discuss Lindros but some say privately he's caused rifts and has improperly handled his

 During the NHL locksports networks picked up poker to fill air time and, years later, poker ratings remain high.

But is poker a sport? I'm beginning to think so, and I'll be profiling Canadian poker star Isabelle Mercier this week, but I'd like to know your thoughts. Email marty.york@metro news.ca to tell me if you consider poker a sport.

Incidentally, the most-

searched word on the Internet in 2008? Poker.

• Mike Benevides stunned the Argonauts recently by rejecting their offer to become Toronto's head coach, but his decision may well be a blessing for his predecessor with the B.C. Lions.

Dave Ritchie, who left B.C. before last season and was replaced as the team's defensive co-ordinator by Benevides, has been contacted by the Argos and has emerged as one of the top two candidates for the job. The other is Bart Andrus, an assistant coach with the NFL's Tennessee Titans.

If Andrus is chosen, the Argos will try to recruit Ritchie as assistant head coach and defensive co-ordinator.

Ritchie, 70, spent 25 years in Canada as a head and assistant coach and knowledge of the league could help Andrus, who has no CFL experi-

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaste in Canada for decades.

NHL Habs fall in Boston



Former Canadiens forward Michael Ryder, right, is hit by Mike Komisarek last night. Montreal lost 3-1 to the Bruins.

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VESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Sports in brief

AUS BASKETBALL Joev Haywood's assault on the Atlantic University Sport men's basketball circuit continued last night. The first-year Saint Mary's Huskies guard from Vancouver piled up 35 points on 12-for-19 shooting to lift the Huskies to a 94-87 victory over the host Acadia Axemen. Haywood, who is averaging 20.6 points per game, is second to Dalhousie's Simon Farine in AUS scoring. The Huskies are 5-3. In the women's game, the Axewomen (2-8) prevailed 61-56 over the Huskies (2-7). Kelsey Daley had a game-high 16 points and eight assists in the loss.

JUNIOR A HOCKEY The Halifax Lions lost their eighth straight Maritime Junior A Hockey League game yesterday, a 7-2 setback to the Dieppe Commandos at the Forum. Ben Clarke and Brad Smith scored for the Lions, who are 6-30-2-3.

MLB The Atlanta Braves have reportedly agreed to terms with right-hander Derek Lowe on a four-year contract. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution is reporting that the deal is worth \$60 million US.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Metro Drive

Honda Civic like hotcakes

Based on its all-time record annual sales of 72,463 units in 2008, Honda Civic became the first passenger car in 15 years to achieve status as the top-selling vehicle, including all cars and trucks, in Canada. The Civic also remained Canada's top-selling passenger car for the 11th consecutive year, outselling its nearest competitor by 14,727 units. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

A new dance at Detroit show



he Detroit auto show, also known its more grandiose name The North American International Auto Show — is in full swing right now. But it's an awkward swing, like a 12year old boy with size 10 feet, dancing with his mother.

Big auto shows usually great atmosphere. Hard not to, I guess, when you've got world debuts of exciting vehicular creations, and very theatrical press conferences and displays.

whole point of The these auto shows, it seems, is a chance for the auto players to one-up each other, show a little swagger, and give us that sizzle we so much like with our car steaks.

Put someone on a stage to be humble, however, and well, it's not great theatre. Unless of course, you were looking for tragedy or a train wreck. But we didn't get that, either. The 2009 Detroit auto show was not nearly as exciting as past years, or as entertainingly bad as some had

Even when someone had



Even breakthrough cars such as the Toyota Prius Plug-In Hybrid were greeted with muted enthusiasm at the Detroit auto show in Cobo Center, columnist Michael Goetz writes.

something cool to show the world, like VW did with its brilliant, minimalist, midengine roadster concept, it was done in the wake of a sombre speech by its chairman, outlining the company's commitment to "the show, the city, and the U.S. auto industry."

As you know, many of his import colleagues didn't show up. Many others decided to go low key, with simple displays and no "unveil."

Ford is the sole Detroitbased automaker that isn't dipping into government bailout money — for now at least. It seemed to revel in that position, with decidedly more whiz-bang in its unveilings, and more strut to its stride, than exhibited by either of its U.S. brethren.

One of its introductions, the 2010 Ford Mustang Shelby GT 500, also gave us gear heads one of the few occasions to holler — not only is it a great 540-hp boy toy, it exited the stage in Cobo Center via tire squeal. Some in the crowd actually squealed back, in delight no doubt, for putting a small dent in the political correctness warp

shield that seemed to be in force around the whole show.

Nobody whooped or hollered when Ford talked about its new Fusion hybrid, or, later, when Toyota announced that its new Prius would return a combined fuel efficiency rating of 50 mpg, or when the Chinese automaker BYD, took the wraps off the world's first production plug-in hybrid (on sale in China later this month).

But that's OK. This was not a show to stir the emotions; this was people trying to figure out a new dance.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.



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Genesis a top creation

People have the wrong idea of luxury. Luxury isn't heated seats, a sunroof or leather. It can't be defined by options lists, vehicle types nor engineering feats — nor with pedigree, prestige or presence.

Worse still, luxury becomes meaningless immediately when many people have access to it.

Espresso in the morning used to be a luxury. Sushi used to be a luxury. So did cottages, condos, bottled water, cell phones and designer handbags. Once you can buy it at the local mall, it's ubiquitous.

Hyundai knows ubiquitous. From the Pony to the \$9,995 Accent, for decades its electricity bills have been paid on the back of frugal and simple vehicles.

But all that changes with the Genesis. Apart from the conspicuous absence of a Hyundai badge, of course.



Hyundai honoured

Hyundai Genesis was named the 2009 North American Car of the Year at the Detroit auto show this week.

like a Mercedes-Benz S-Class; other viewpoints bring out a little BMW 5-Series, Lexus GS, Infiniti M ... all of which are easily recognized as luxury vehicles, and admittedly the Genesis also looks like it could be parked out front at

The car's trump card is its drivetrain: either a 3.8L V6 with 306 horsepower or a 4.6L V8 with 375 horses. Price ranges from \$37,995 to \$48,995, with the V8 starting at \$43,995.

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Telemark weekend

On the weekend of Jan. 24 and 25, telemark specialists and enthusiasts will gather at Le Massif in Charlevoix, Que., for the 13th annual event dedicated to the slide sport. There will be activities for everyone from beginners to experts; visit lemassif.com METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Underwater photo contest

competition, will take place at the International Scuba Diving Centre in Isle of Youth, Cuba. The sub-aquatic contest will grant 17 awards in categories such as fish (turtle, octopus, squid), undersea flora and fauna, colours, works using flash, and so on. For more information, visit cayolargodelsur.cu/fotosub2009, cubatur.cu and cubatravel.cu.



TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

The downside of travel advisories

Warnings are necessary, but can they make you worry more than you need to?



ravel advisories aren't the most comforting reports to read right before you get on a plane. One such advisory, containing phrases such as "fatal bombings," "incidents of violence targeting crowds of civilians" and "random acts of terrorism," inspired second thoughts about my impending visit to war-torn Sri

In this South Asian country, the 20-year-long conflict between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and the Sri Lanka Army has lead to over 60,000 deaths, damaged the economy, brought political instability and, unsurprisingly, caused a decline in tourist numbers. In 2007, close to 500,000 tourists visited Sri Lanka, 11.7 per cent fewer less than the previous year.



The Gangarama Temple overlooking Beira Lake used to receive plenty of visits from tourists.

Word Travels

• Catch the second season of Word Travels, a documentary series that follows the real-life adventures of travel writers Julia Dimon and Robin Esrock. It airs Sundays at 8 p.m. EST on OLN.

It's no wonder. A few days before I arrived, Tamil Tiger rebels fired at a civilian bus

travelling along a freeway. According to local newspapers, the random attack killed three passengers and injured 16. With news like that, even I — the girl who has backpacked through parts of the DR Congo, Rwanda and the Palestinian Territories — was feeling spooked.

After a week of exploring, touring from the capital city

Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka can seem scary when you read the travel advisories. Government documents ask tourists to avoid several areas in the northeastern parts of the country, including Kilinochchi, Trincomalee, Batticaloa and Ampara Districts, the Jaffna Peninsula, Mannar and Vavuniya.

In the region I visited —

Kataragama, in the south -Ifelt completely safe, although I did have one brief moment of uncertainty while walking through an overcrowded market at a religious festival. Instead of worrying, I temporarily adopted a fatalistic approach and bought myself JULIA DIMON/ some curry. FOR METRO CANADA

make money to support my family," said HP, a 65 yearold who takes tourists

around the Independence Memorial Hall in Colombo. A man with white hair and sparkling blue eyes, he explained that prices have gone up in recent years and living is hard. Like many others I spoke to — from jewelery store owners to vendors hawking elephantthemed trinkets — HP said if the downturn continues, he may have to leave the country altogether to look for another job.

Sundays at 8 p.m. EST on OLN; juliadimon.com

to the countryside, I discovered a reality beyond the travel advisories — a warm and wonderful country with stunning landscapes, rich cultural festivals and friendly people. Sri Lanka quickly become one of my all-time favourite destinations.

As much as I wish more people could see this beautiful country, there's something selfishly intoxicating about visiting "uncharted territories" off the tourist grid. I loved being one of the only tourists around, but for the Sri Lankan people, it's another matter.

"If the tourists aren't hiring tour guides, I can't



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A North America-wide survey released by Travelocity found that people are reluctant to cut back on their vacations, despite the economy — 28 per cent of respondents said their vacations will be the final thing on which they will cut back. METRO NEWS SERVICES





Tourists walk past an area in Durbar Square at Patan, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Nepal: From war zone to tourist destination

Less than three years after a long and bloody civil war ended, tourists are returning to Nepal and its spectacular mountain scenery in record numbers.

The government, led by former Maoist rebels who waged an insurgency against the monarchy for 10 years, has set an ambitious target of doubling visitor numbers to the Himalayan nation by 2011, a top tourism official said.

The Maoists signed a peace deal in 2006 and won a landmark election in April last year, after the end of a civil war that killed an estimated 13,000 people.

Tourism is a key source of income for Nepal, one of the world's poorest countries. It brought in \$230.6 million US in 2007 and accounted for four per cent of GDP.

Tourist arrivals grew four per cent last year from 526,000 in 2007, the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) said. The government has designated 2011 as Nepal Tourism Year and hopes to receive one million visitors on the back of the peace deal, said NTB chief Prachanda Man Shrestha.

"It is challenging but achievable," he said.

"Tourism is not a choice but compulsion for the economic development of Nepal."

Prachanda Man Shrestha

"Tourism is not a choice but compulsion for the economic development of Nepal."

Shrestha said Nepal has an advantage over neighbours India and China because it can attract more tourists without extra investment, as those who come do so for the country's natural sights.

There is also a perception the cash from tourism is mainly fattening the wallets of foreign travel operators in Kathmandu.

Though the government has promised 30 per cent of income from climbers and trekkers will go to development, "the money has not been disbursed yet because the procedures of doing this are unclear," said Tourism Ministry official Ramesh K.C. Some local sherpas in the Khumbhu region, home to Mount

Everest, are already threatening to protest.

Analysts said the bulk of the money goes to foreign tour operators because Nepal has an ailing national carrier and mostly depends on foreign airlines. Many hotels import consumer goods as the country suffers food shortages.

And the 2011 target may be too optimistic. Though Nepal's healthier tourism numbers buck the global trend of a slowdown, the financial recession — which hasn't yet hit Nepal — will soon limit tourism growth and force tour operators to cut prices by 15 to 20 per cent.

Frequent travellers say some popular destinations in the remote Himalayas are already overcrowded, and that rafting and kayaking are polluting rivers.

Peter Patterson, a U.S. guide, said the construction of a road in scenic Mustang, in central Nepal, was destroying the rugged environment which attracts tourists in the first place.

"It may be good for the local people but it is not good for tourists," he said. "The place changes and the attraction for trekking disappears."

REUTERS

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Howie Mandel was hospitalized in Toronto on Monday with an irregular heartbeat, his publicist said. The 53-year-old comedian was in Canada taping his new show Howie Do It. He was released yesterday. MSN.COM

CSI guest star Entertainment star in an upcoming episode of **CSI: Crime Scene Investigation.** Taylor will play Haley Jones, a teen whose family runs a seedy Vegas motel. MSN.COM

Every dog has its day

Canine presence on the rise in family-based entertainment

STEVE GOW for Metro Canada

Thor Freudenthal might possibly be the most ironic person to direct the new family comedy Hotel for

"I'm personally kind of a cat person but I found that putting a camera on a cat makes the cat look bored," said the director while promoting the film recently in L.A. "Dogs are always participating in something, they're so expressive and I think that's why they're great for the screen.

There's no disputing that argument. From Marley & Me to last year's Beverly Hills Chihuahua, canines have never had such a presence in family-based entertainment. For Freudenthal, the reason became clear while making Hotel for Dogs, which opens in theatres this Friday.

"There's this bond unlike any other bond between a

"Even if two people are completely opposite, you can bond over (dogs)."

Actress Emma Roberts

dog and a human being," said Freudenthal. "There's that innocent quality to them that has no agenda but to please us or give love in a way."

"It's a common interest too," added star Emma Roberts. "Even if two people are completely opposite, you can bond over (dogs). It's a common interest that's a simple bond.'

In the film, Roberts plays a foster child who, along with her brother (Jake T. Austin), discovers an abandoned hotel and transform it into a majestic home for all the homeless mutts they can manage. But that doesn't mean things were especially friendly on-set. With over 60 dogs running



Emma Roberts and Jake T. Austin star in Hotel for Dogs, which opens in theatre on Friday.



there was either a little fight breaking out or somebody got a little too hunlaughed Freudenthal.

"We had to do a lot of ADR work, which is, we had to overlap our lines," added Austin. "Either there was barking or trainers yelling Thor, the director screaming, giving direction."

Head trainer Mark Forbes would attest to the manic filming conditions. Having also worked on Marley & Me, he insists the greatest attribute for making dog movies is patience. "It just takes time and the crew, they're used to (doing) three or four takes. With these guys, sometimes it takes 10, 15, 20 takes to get it right so just everybody being so patient is what got both of these films made so well."

Swayze battles **Beast**

TV Those who tune in to tomorrow's premiere of The Beast on A&E for purely macabre reasons (i.e. looking to



Swayze

get a glimpse of a man wasting away before their eyes) will come away disappointed.

Patrick Swayze may be battling pancreatic cancer, but you wouldn't know it to observe the actor's powerful performance as a loose-cannon undercover FBI agent in what is otherwise a fairly standard-issue cop drama.

As for that bracing performance by Swayze, forget about Dirty Dancing and Ghost and think Dirty Harry. Playing a fed who is out of control, his performance here is edgy, disturbing and all-involving. Even at its most contrived, The Beast works far better than last year's homegrown A&E hour The Cleaner, with Benjamin

Chandni Chowk to China and beyond

CHRIS ALEXANDER for Metro Canada

Even though it has remained the world's most prolific filmmaking machine for more than 50 years, the wild world of the Bollywood movie is generally unknown to most mainstream North American viewers.

Chandni Chowk to China aims to change all that. The epic, big budget kung-fu comedy — it opens Friday — marks the first time major U.S. studio Warner Bros. has co-produced a completely Hindi-language picture (other studios Fox, Sony and Disney have similarly begun investing in Bollywood ventures) and expectations are high.

'This is a very big deal for Bollywood films because it exposes us on a global



Sidhu (Akshay Kumar) expresses himself in dance in the action comedy Chandni Chowk to China.

level," says Bollywood superstar and Chandni Chowk to China lead actor, Akshay Kumar.

American and British cinema has incorporated elements and trappings of the Bollywood style for years (Danny Boyle's Slumdog Millionaire stands as a recent commercially and critically

successful example) but Chandni Chowk to China is the real deal.

In it, Kumar stars as hapless Delhi veggie slicer Sidhu who, mistaken for the reincarnation of a legendary warrior, is whisked away to China to do battle with an evil crime boss named Hojo — played by Kung Fu movie icon Gordon Liu.

Not only is CC2C the biggest internationally exposed Indian film in history — with over 140 prints in North America alone but its production also marks the first time any movie from any country has been allowed to film on the ancient Great Wall of China.

"Not only did we shoot on the wall," says Kumar, "but we were, kicking, jumping and throwing people around with cables and cranes. It was incredible and a great privilege.

In true Bollywood fashion, Chandni Chowk to China runs almost three hours long and is packed to the bursting point with slapstick comedy, maudlin drama, jaw dropping action, heart throbbing romance ... and of course, those outrageously colourful, slickly choreographed musical numbers that have endeared - and confused so many filmgoers.

"In a Hollywood movie, emotions are shown subtly but in a Bollywood movie, when somebody feels love, we go on to a bridge and dance and yell 'I love her and she loves me so lets have a song.' We're loud that way."

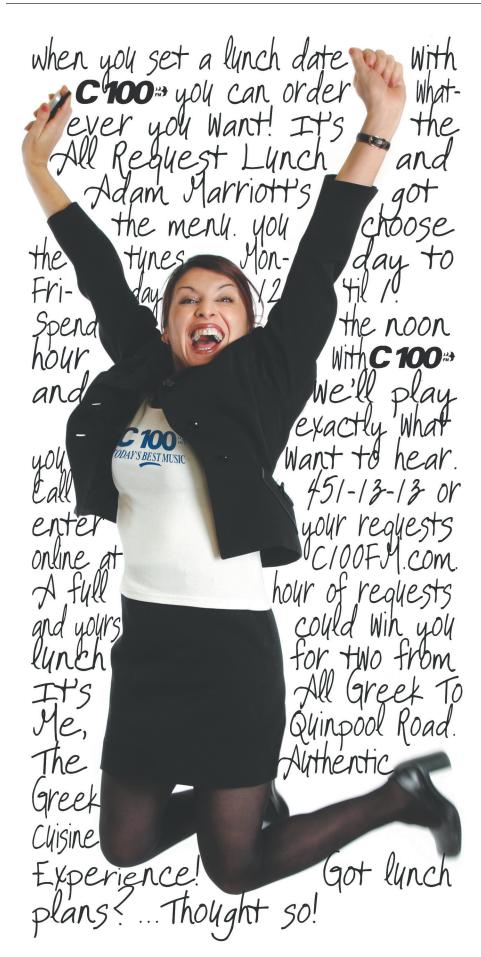
SAG may drop top negotiator

MOVIES The national executive director of the Screen Actors Guild, a lightning rod for criticism during the stalled contract talks with the studios, is on the way out as chief negotiator.

The union's national board met in Los Angeles on Monday, with moderate members appearing to have enough votes to strip Doug Allen of his negotiating power. But by early vesterday, a ballot had yet to be conducted, said a SAG spokeswoman.

According to insiders, union moderates were confident they would also be able to dissolve the negotiating committee and kill a proposed strike-authorization vote.

The guild has been locked in a stalemate with the studios, represented by the Alliance of Motion Picture & Television Producers (AMPTP), for more than six months.



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12 entertainment

Ledger's Golden Globe prize will go to daughter

The emotional parents of Heath Ledger welcomed his posthumous Golden Globe win for The Dark Knight with bittersweet pride, and the actor's mother said the award was likely to be given to his daughter Matilda.

Ledger's father, Kim, told Australian media that he felt "elated, fantastic" as he watched Monday's awards ceremony from his home in Perth, Australia.

"Absolutely fantastic, bittersweet but feeling great," Kim Ledger said.

"A standing ovation breaks you up," he said, referring to the reception accorded Ledger's win by the star-studded audience. "That really goes to the heart, you know."

In an interview with People magazine, Ledger's mother, Sally Bell, also said the family was "bursting with pride" over the critical recognition of her son's supporting role as the villainous Joker in the hit Batman thriller.

"I should imagine that



The Golden Globe award for best supporting actor presented posthumously to Heath Ledger, pictured at the 2006 Oscars, will be given to his three-year-old daughter Matilda, his mother says.

eventually it will be going to Matilda," Bell said of the award. "At this stage she is only so young, but down the track she will have all these things. It will belong to her because she is part of him."

The Dark Knight was re-

leased several months after Ledger's death in January 2008 of an accidental prescription drugs overdose.

The movie has garnered Ledger, 28, not only the Golden Globe but also won a Critics Choice Award, a Screen Actors Guild nomination, and he is widely expected to receive an Oscar nomination next week.

The Golden Globe was accepted in Beverly Hills on Sunday by Dark Knight director Christopher Nolan.

"It is such a fantastic and wonderful legacy for his daughter. Matilda will have so many people who will be able to speak to her about her father's abilities and (the) respect he had in the industry. That is such a wonderful legacy to leave," Bell told People.

Matilda, 3, is the daughter of Ledger and actress Michelle Williams. The couple separated a few months before Ledger's death and Matilda is being raised by Williams. REUTERS



MAPLE Pictures

VISIT METRONEWS.CA AND ENTER FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN!

No purchase necessary. One entry per person. Contest open to Canadian residents of legal age, excluding residents of Quebec. Contest closes January 16, 2009 at 11:59pm. Odds of winning depend on number of entries received. For full contest rules and details, visit www.metronews.ca.



entertainment 13

Season shaping up

IntelleVision



WHAT'S NEXT: The next few months in TV are starting to take vague shape with a few announcements from networks, including the return of Ray Romano to primetime in a "dramedy" exploring the midlife crisis of a group of fortysomething buddies.

The show, titled Men Of A Certain Age, was greenlit for an initial 10 episodes by TNT according to a story in the Hollywood Reporter, and will also star Andre Braugher (star of Gideon's Crossing, a shortlived spinoff of The Practice) and Scott Bakula. Think Bromance with a lot of prostate jokes.

Fox will be bringing back 'Til Death with a full 22-episode order for next season, a surprise revival of the sitcom that will bring the show's total to



Cancelling Prison Break at the end of the current season is hardly unexpected.

more than 80 episodes — enough to bring it to syndication, according to a TVGuide.com story, though only seven of the current season's episodes aired when it disappeared from the air in October.

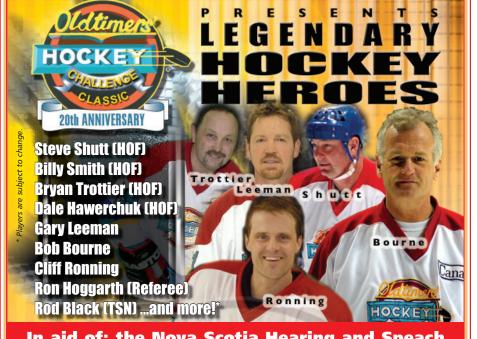
Which reminds us of the rule that the only thing about Fox you can trust is its unpredictability. Cancelling Prison Break at the end of the current season is hardly unexpected, however — the show long ago exhausted its premise, which was never more than miniseries-sized. "The show is just played out,"

Fox entertainment president Kevin Reilly told the Hollywood Reporter. "Creatively everybody feels enough stories have been told ... we want to finish strong and not just gimpout next season."

Reilly did say that a few extra episodes could be shot to pad out the four remaining set to air. The network has a new animated comedy from Arrested Development creator Mitch Hurwitz, Sit Down, Shut Up, ready to take over King Of The Hill's Sunday evening slot when that show leaves the air in April, and high hopes that they can make Friday night a testosterone-friendly one when they pair up Joss Whedon's troubled Dollhouse with Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles.

It might just work, if Reilly can convince Whedon's geeky fan base that going out of Friday night is for jocks, or break their TiVos if they insist on having a social life.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.



In aid of: the Nova Scotia Hearing and Speach Foundation "Sound Start Program"

Legendary Hockey Heroes

TODAY'S COUNTRY

HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE / MAPP HOCKEY TEAM

V.S.

HALIFAX

Halifax Metro Centre

Wed, January 14, 2009

@ 7:00 P.M.

Single Ticket \$20

(Plus Taxes • Service Charge May Apply)

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT:

Box Office Halifax Metro Centre

Lace-Up

FREE skate with Legendary Hockey Heroes members before the game 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm (Only valid with your OTHC ticket) SPONSORED BY:

call@recycle

www.oldtimershockey.com

Rockvill to feature live sets online

ONLINE SERIES Josh
Schwartz plans to make
good use of the indie rock
bands appearing in his upcoming online endeavor
Rockville, putting their entire exclusive performances online. Unlike on his
former Fox series The
O.C., which introduced
bands like Death Cab for
Cutie to larger audiences,
acts appearing on the
show will perform live
during the taping.

REUTERS

In **brief**

COURTS Warner Bros. and Fox are "close" to reaching a settlement regarding their Watchmen lawsuit, according to sources. A judge has ruled that Fox has distribution rights to the superhero film, which is scheduled to be released by Warners March 6.







critics'corner___

Anna and Kristina's Grocery Bag AForeign cuisine evolves when

AForeign cuisine evolves when it crosses oceans and borders; chop suey, for example, is a North American invention unheard of in China. Nevertheless, some foodles are into staying as true to the cuisine's roots as possible. To that end, this new episode finds Anna and Kristina on their way to Tuscany to find out whether the Italian cookbook they're reviewing is full of truly Italian recipes. 9 PM on W



Hockeyville 2009

This series is a pageant of sorts, with communities as the contestants. Cities and towns from around Canada put their hometown pride and their love of hockey on display in hopes of being chosen the most worthy of the name Hockeyville. The winner gets a makeover for its local arena and plays host to an NHL exhibition game. In the premiere the hosts are introduced, the top 20 contenders are chosen, and celebrities share their hockey memories. 8 PM on CBC

Lost

The wait is almost over. And since it's been a while since we've been to the island, ABC reairs last season's finale to refresh fans' memories in anticipation of next week's season premiere. The season finale, which finds the survivors and the "freighter people" getting ready to rumble, clocks in at a whopping three hours. But it's worth it, at least in terms of drama. 9 PM on ABC ASN

14 entertainment



Carnie Wilson can get the personalized pillow ready — she's already picked her new baby's name, five months ahead of the impending delivery. "It's Luciana — but we'll call her Lucy," the singer tells The Bonnie Hunt Show. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Rourke may have taken steroids, website alleges

CAREER Femalefirst.co.uk is alleging that Mickey Rourke may have taken steroids for his role in The Wrestler, quoting a magazine article as proof.

The website alleges the actor has revealed he piled on the pounds for his role as Randy (The Ram) Robinson in the acclaimed movie — which earned him a Golden Globe award on Sunday — by eating up to seven meals a day and training hard with an Israeli cage fighter.

But the website adds

But the website adds
Rourke may have had additional help creating his
hulking physique. When
asked if he used steroids
to bulk up, Rourke
told Men's
Journal magazine: "When

I'm a wrestler, I behave like a wrestler," the website alleges as proof.

The twice-divorced actor recently admitted he could empathize with his character's struggles because of his own turbulent life.

years in the Hollywood wilderness — said: "Randy has been in the twilight of his career for several years. He thinks he has one more game in him — one more shot. He wants to come back again.

"I know what that feels

like. Randy was somebody 20 years ago and so was Mickey Rourke. When you used to be a somebody and you aren't anybody anymore, you live in what my doctor calls a state of shame. Hollywood is a very unforgiving place, but I took a nosedive all by myself, no one pushed



Divorce gets ugly for Rutherford

between Gossip Girl star Kelly Rutherford and her estranged husband has turned ugly, with the actress seeking to bar him from leaving the United States with their two-year-old son for fear they'll disappear, people.com reports.

The website says estranged husband David Giersch countered in L.A. Superior Court with papers alleging the actress, who's four months pregnant with their second child, has a bad tem-

a bad tem per, once throwing a laptop at him and another time trying to sock him with her fist. Rutherford, 40, filed for divorce from Giersch, an entrepreneur, last month

after being married a little
over two years,
seeking sole physical custody
with monitored visitation. On the
same day,
Giersch

Giersch filed for legal separation, seeking sole legal and physical custody with visitation for her.

tation for her.
In emergency
papers
filed
Fri-

day, Rutherford sought to bar Giersch, 34, from traveling outside the United States with their son Hermès, people.com says.

"I feel there is some risk that he will leave the country with Hermès and I will not know where they are," Rutherford said in a declaration, adding that during their marriage, he told her of a pending investigation in his native Germany that could lead to his arrest.

Giersch fired back in a response that he has dutifully served as Hermès' main caretaker in L.A., and that Rutherford's commitments to Gossip Girl and her bicoastal commute were a reason why their marriage failed.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Gisele, Brady engaged?

The couple are discussing a

huge fashionista event in

the spring or a more inti-

mate and quicker ceremo-

ny in Costa Rica, where

Gisele — who has previ-

ously dated Revolutionary

Road actor Leonardo Di-

Caprio and professional surfer Kelly Slater — al-

legedly began her relation-

ship with Tom when he

was still romanti-

Gisele has a home."

RELATIONSHIP Gisele Bundchen and Tom Brady are engaged, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The Brazilian model and American football star are set to wed after Brady got down on one knee and proposed with a diamond solitaire ring in Los Angeles on

Gisele's agent has refused to confirm the happy news, saying: "We don't comment on our clients'

Friday, the website says.



Renée too busy for men

PEOPLE Renée Zellweger is too busy to have a boyfriend, femalefirst.co.uk is reporting.

The actress doesn't have time to concentrate on romance because of her hectic acting and promo-

tional schedule.
Renée, 39, told
Marie Claire magazine: "I'm not single,
I'm busy. That's my
line. The thing is,
I'm away all the time. I
suppose if I sat still
long enough to get
to know somebody beyond a
dinner date,

maybe.
"But I don't feel like my life is empty or that I have to make something happen. I have projects to develop."

Renée has pre-

viously dated actors Jim Carrey and George Clooney and White Stripes singer Jack White. She then married country singer Kenny Chesney in 2005, but the marriage was annulled four months lat-

parently no room for a man in her life, Renée has doubted her single status. She said: "I wonder is there really time for all of it? I never say never about anything because I look back on my own personal history

Although there is ap-

and it shocks me."

METRO NEWS

SERVICES

Time to focus on family?

FAMILY With her Broadway run of All My Sons over, it's time for Katie Holmes to get back to enlarging her family — at least according to husband Tom Cruise.

Now magazine claims that Cruise has ordered Holmes to put on weight and get pregnant. "Tom

believes Katie needs to focus on their family again," a source tells the British magazine. "As far as Tom's concerned, he kept his side of the bargain by allowing Katie to concentrate on her career; now it's time for her to

keep hers."

METRO NEWS

SERVICES

Perry laments on heartache

Wilson has baby name picked out

PEOPLE Katy Perry let all her emotions hang out during an acoustic set at L.A.'s Hotel Cafe Monday night, people.com reports.

"It hurts right now," People quotes the singer as saying about her recent split with boyfriend Travis McCoy.

"When you breakup with someone you move on," she said. "You don't really want to move on ... but you have to because they don't give you any choice," she added before declaring, "But I'm over it!"

Despite battling a bad case of the flu, Perry promised the crowd that she'd be healthy again for her tour starting Jan. 23, says people.com. The website adds she constantly looked to her friends, who were sitting just below the stage, for support, ans she kept a smile on her face and cracked jokes between



Cyrus wants to wed DiCaprio

PEOPLE Though she may be famously dating underwear model Justin Gaston — and is only 16 — teen superstar Miley Cyrus has her sights set on a new man.

According to Britain's Daily Star, while talking about going to the Golden Globes, Cyrus said, "I saw my husband, Leonardo Di-Caprio. I didn't meet him. He doesn't know I'm his wife, but I will be one day."

METRO NEWS SERVICES





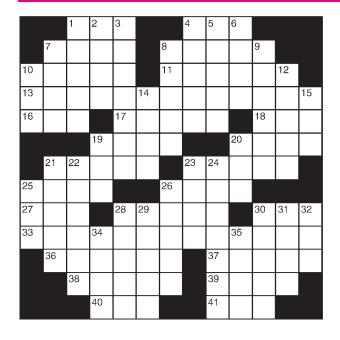


WE EVEN DID THE BROWSING FOR YOU!

entertainment **15**

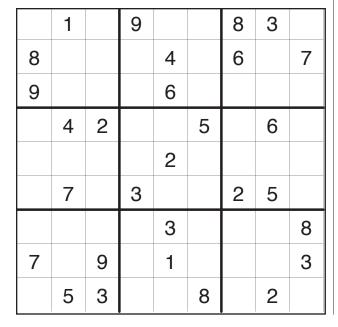
For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



Sudoku

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



Crossword across

- 1 Ventilate
- 4 Be a couch potato
- 7 Peru's capital
- 8 Partook at a banquet 10 Man of morals?
- 11 Invest officially
- 13 Not mincing words
- 16 out a living
- 17 Find
- 18 Water barrier
- 19 Cohort 20 Actress Sorvino
- 21 Diarist Samuel
- 23 Some silverware 25 Go limp
- 26 Strictly entre —

- 27 Blackbird
- 28 Off the perpendicular
- 30 Upper limit
- 33 Childhood game played
- in a circle
- 36 Buccaneer
- 37 Not as plentiful
- 38 Eldrick Woods
- 39 Sicilian spouter
- 40 Witness
- 41 Kid's query

Crossword down

- 1 Supermarket section 2 "No harm done"
- 3 Apace
- 4 Esthetic taste
- 5 Finish
- 6 Paraphernalia
- 7 Plumbing problem
- 8 Pooch
- 9 Small antelope 10 Noshed
- 12 Approaches
- 14 Rock guitarist Lofgren 15 Singer Sumac
- 19 Likely
- 20 "- Doubtfire" 21 Centerfold, maybe 22 Draw forth

- 23 Traditional music style
- 24 Got too big for
- 25 Bankroll
- 26 More pleasant
- 28 Old saw
- 29 Private student
- 30 Hackneyed 31 Cruising
- 32 Apiece
- 34 Singer-actor Kristoffer-
- son
- 35 Swearword

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

Α	В	Е	Т		S	Р	Υ		Τ	0	S	S	1	6	5	3	8	4	9	2
Μ	Е	М	0		Τ	L	0		Α	0	Ν	E	_	_	_	7	_	_	4	_
Μ	Α	1	D		S	0	U	Т	Н	Ρ	Α	W	8	3	2	7	9	6	4	5
0	U	Т	D	R	Α	W		W	Ι	S	Р	S	4	7	9	5	2	1	6	3
			L	0	L		F	1	Т				5	9	8	4	7	2	3	4
Α	В	В	Ε	Υ		S	Α	G	1	Ν	Α	W		Э	0		/		J	4
В	Α	R			В	0	Χ			Ε	W	Ε	3	4	7	6	5	9	1	8
С	Н	0	С	Т	Α	W		Ρ	Н	0	N	E	6	2	1	4	3	8	5	7
			Н	0	G		G	Α	Υ							4	J	0	٦	′
Α	R	G	0	Ν		Н	Α	Ν	D	S	Α	W	7	8	6	9	4	3	2	1
M	0	0	S	Ε	J	Α	W		R	Α	J	Α	2	1	3	8	6	5	7	9
Ε	D	G	Е		Е	L	Κ		Α	F	Α	R			-	_		-	Ė	-
Ν	Ε	0	И		Т	0	Υ		s	Е	Х	Υ	9	5	4	2	1	7	8	6

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU	SOLVE TIME:
Under 13	minG

Under 13 min	Geniu
13-17 min	Schola

17-21 min	Smart
21-25 min	Not bad
25+ minK	eep practising

Salmon pizza

with yogurt

Metro Recipe of the Day

and dill INGREDIENTS:

8

2

9

5

4

2 small skinless salmon fillets, about 3/4 lb (375 g) in total

- 2 large tomatoes 1 small mild white or red onion
- 2 thin 10-in. (25-cm) unbaked pizza crusts Salt and black pepper 8 sprigs of fresh dill 6 oz (170 g) Greek yogourt
- To serve: 4 tbsp (60 ml) mango chutney, optional **METHOD:**
- 1. Preheat oven to 425°F (220°C). Remove bones from salmon fillets, then dice flesh.
- 2. Rinse, dry and finely chop tomatoes; peel and finely chop onion. Place pizza crusts on baking trays; spread tomatoes and onion over each. Arrange

salmon on top and add salt and pepper to taste. 3. Bake for 15–20 minutes, or until lightly browned, swapping trays around half way through. 4. Rinse and dry dill. Set aside a few sprigs for a garnish, finely chop remainder, and mix into yogourt, with some pepper. 5. Remove pizzas from oven, spoon some yogourt over each and garnish with reserved dill. 6. Cut each salmon pizza into quarters and serve two portions per person, accompanied by mango

rd.ca

SERVES 4

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on

chutney, if using.



AVATAR VENUS

Horoscopes

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20 You'll increase your confidence level. You'll smile through an

ecstatic meeting. A playmate

appeals to you for understand-

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23

A friend's clowning around should be encouraged. A seedy guy needs a helping hand. Lively people will have you pleading for rest.

TAURUS APRIL 21-MAY 21

Move to a calmer and healthier

SCORPIO

GEMINI

place. Your ability to listen is enhanced. Don't get caught looking for a brilliant romance.

OCT 24-NOV 22

A rewarding message arrives in the afternoon. Honesty is the key in a compromise. A liar wins a game by telling the truth.

MAY 22-JUNE 21

Someone's modest secrets are about to be revealed. Scandaltalk will cause a dispute. Fearlessly adapting to new conditions takes time.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23-DEC 21

A lucky break cheers you up. Better info comes from an endearing woman. Someone will pester you with a cunning plan.

CANCER JUNE 22-JULY 22

A cheeky cheerleader gets a payback. Displeasure forces a decision to be made. Unfaithfulness causes difficulties in a love life.

CAPRICORN DEC 22-JAN 20

A protector has told a lie. A trail of evidence leads to a revelation. An ethical person will give you peace of mind.

LEO JULY 23-AUG 23

A door opens to a blast from the past. A passionate message is too tiring to deal with. Make an effort to avoid painful ailments.

AQUARIUS JAN 21-FEB 18

Someone will take the flack for you. A friend is on the verge of asking for help. Somebody will show you the way to make progress.

VIRGO AUG 24-SEPT 22

Your favourite visitor is arranging a flight. A new supporter bites off more than he can chew. Someone gives you the upper hand in a deal.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20

You can start to set realistic goals. A humble person is a good organizer. Be kinder to an absentminded individual.

This day in history

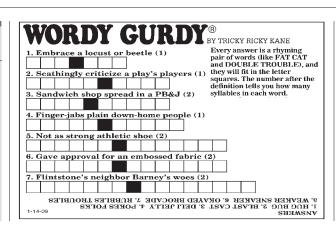
JAN. 14, 1501: Martin Luther, age 17, enters the University of

JAN. 14, 1943: World War II: Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill begin the Casablanca Conference to discuss strategy and study the next phase of the war.

JAN. 14, 1999: Toronto, Ont., Mayor Mel Lastman to be the first mayor in Canada to call in the Army for shovelling perhaps the highest recorded amount of snow in Toronto history. CORRECTION: Japan apologized for forcing Korean women into sexual slavery during World War II in 1992. The wrong year

appeared in yesterday's This Day In History.

METRO NEWS SERVICES





'COMMENT & VIEWS"

Whether you agree or disagree about anything you've read in Metro, we want to know. Send us your views and pick up Metro daily to find out what other Metro readers are saying.

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